



# Allowable activities for Private Native Forestry

This fact sheet provides information for landholders and specifically those with Private Native Forestry Plans, on using allowable activities. These cover a range of routine land management activities associated with agriculture, forestry and other common practices in rural areas. Clearing for allowable activities does not require approval under the *Local Land Services Act 2013*.

## Overview

Allowable activities consolidate and simplify the routine agricultural management activities (RAMAs) that were part of the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*.

Recent changes to the private native forestry framework have provided greater flexibility and discretion to landholders enabling them to efficiently undertake low risk routine land management activities.

Clearing undertaken for any allowable activity must be undertaken either by you or someone on your behalf, unless specifically stated otherwise. All other required statutory approvals must be obtained before clearing for a work, building or structure.

There are three (3) Allowable Activity Zones in NSW, the Western, Central and Coastal Zones. The maximum clearing distances for allowable activities are different for each zone and are also reduced on small landholdings (holdings under 40ha in the Western Division and under 10ha elsewhere in the State).

Allowable activities enable clearing for the following on Category 2 - regulated land. Where land is classed as Category 2 - vulnerable regulated land or Category 2 - regulated sensitive land, allowable activities are limited and a reduced maximum clearing distance applies.

### Allowable activities in PNF Plan areas

#### Imminent risk

You can manage native vegetation considered reasonably necessary to remove or reduce an imminent risk serious personal injury or damage to property.

#### Traditional Aboriginal cultural activities

You can manage native vegetation for traditional Aboriginal cultural activities provided the clearing is not for commercial purposes.

#### Collection of firewood

You can harvest native vegetation for firewood on your property for use on that property or other land you own.

However, the clearing must not occur if the firewood could be obtained from other allowable activities or from clearing associated with the *Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018* or from forest operations authorised by a Private Native Forestry Plan.

Native vegetation to be harvested must not be a threatened species, or be part of a Threatened Ecological Community (TEC), or be the habitat of a threatened species.

Want to know more?

*We're here to help*

**Find us online:** [lls.nsw.gov.au](https://lls.nsw.gov.au)

**Call us:** 1300 795 299 and ask for an officer to advise you on Private Native Forestry

**Email us:** [pnf.info@nsw.gov.au](mailto:pnf.info@nsw.gov.au)

**See us:** drop into your nearest Local Land Services office



**Local Land  
Services**

# Allowable activities for Private Native Forestry

In addition, for PNF Plan areas harvesting of firewood must not:

- cause land degradation, including soil erosion, rising water tables, increases in salinity, mass movement by gravity of soil or rock, stream bank instability and any process that results in declining water quality, and
- occur on land that is described as a riparian exclusion zone or riparian buffer zone in the private native forestry code of practice that applies to the private native forestry plan area.

## Construction timber

You can harvest native vegetation to obtain timber for the purpose, or for use in, the construction, operation or maintenance of rural infrastructure on the same land.

However, the clearing must not occur if the construction timber could be obtained from other allowable activities or from clearing associated with the *Land Management (Native Vegetation) Code 2018* or from forest operations authorised by a Private Native Forestry Plan.

Native vegetation to be harvested must not be a threatened species, or be part of a Threatened Ecological Community (TEC), or be the habitat of a threatened species.

In addition, for PNF Plan areas harvesting of construction timber must not:

- cause land degradation, including soil erosion, rising water tables, increases in salinity, mass movement by gravity of soil or rock, stream bank instability and any process that results in declining water quality, and
- occur on land that is described as a riparian exclusion zone or riparian buffer zone in the Private Native Forestry Code of Practice that applies to the Private Native Forestry Plan area.

## Planted native vegetation

Allows you to manage planted native vegetation provided it has not been planted with the assistance of public funds.

In addition for Private Native Forestry Plan areas, harvesting is not authorised if the land has been planted as part of stocking or regeneration requirements under a relevant private native forestry code of practice or as a result of a direction given or requirements made by the Chief Environmental Regulator of the Environmental Protection Authority.

## Sustainable grazing

You may clear native vegetation for sustainable grazing provided this clearing does not result in the long-term decline in the structure and composition of native vegetation.

Sustainable grazing also extends to over-sowing or fertilisation of grasslands used for grazing.

## Private power lines

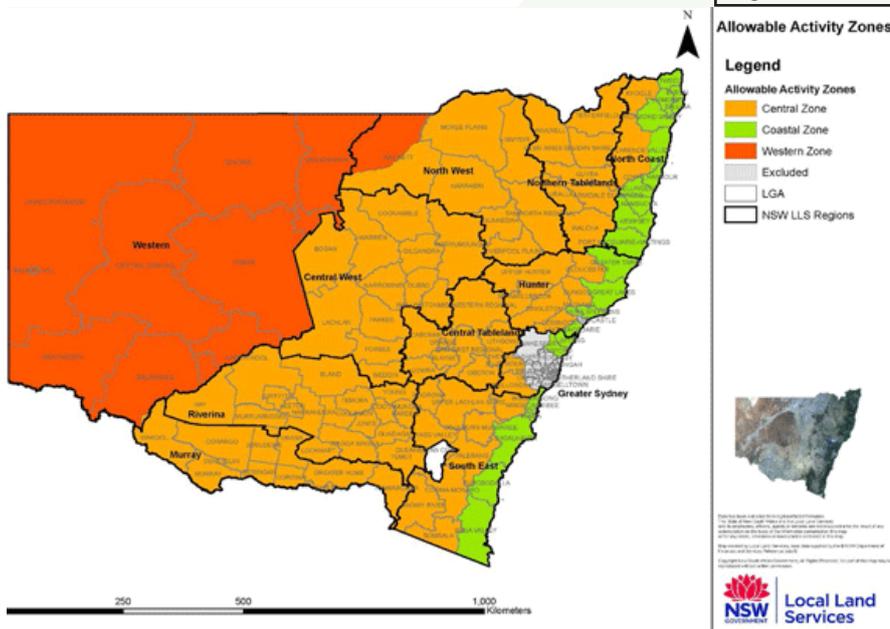
Allows you to clear vegetation if it is reasonably necessary for the construction, operation or maintenance of privately owned power lines on private land.

## Maximum clearing distances for rural infrastructure

You must only clear the minimum amount of vegetation necessary to build and maintain rural infrastructure.

The maximum distance of clearing for rural infrastructure in each zone and on a small landholding is as follows:

Zone	Clearing distance
Western zone	40 metres
Central zone	30 metres
Coastal zone	15 metres
Small holdings (in any zone)	12 metres
Vulnerable and sensitive regulated land	6 metres



## Additional considerations

You should only clear for an allowable activity to the minimum extent necessary. Certain allowable activities, such as Firebreaks and Gravel Pits, are limited or prohibited outside of the Western Zone.

The Environmental protection works and the Exempt farm forestry allowable activities are not permitted in Private Native Forestry Plan areas.